

## **ARTHRITIS COMMITTEE MEETING MINUTES**

**January 20, 2021**

**5:00 – 6:00 pm**

### **Committee Members Present**

Rachel Pigott (Chair)

Dr. Afton Thomas

Dr. Sumit Bassi

Linda Kline

### **Committee Members Absent**

Kelsie Shannon

Salliann Alborn

### **Maryland Department of Health Staff Present**

Dr. Olubukola Alonge

#### **1. Roll Call/ Approval of December meeting minutes**

Rachel called the meeting to order at 5:05 pm with a roll call. Linda Kline re-introduced herself to the team; consisting of several new members with other member introductions ensuing. A motion was made to approve the December minutes which was unanimously approved by all members present.

#### **2. Discussion**

The committee discussed the Walk for the Cure Arthritis Foundation event and the plans for a walking group in collaboration with other members of the Health and Wellness Council. Considerations are being made for a virtual and an in-person walk event in Annapolis, Maryland. Dr. Thomas updated the arthritis committee topics document and has reached out to the Osteoarthritis Initiative (OAI). She will provide more updates on this and follow up on the patient request to join the arthritis foundation connect group. The group discussed updates on the timelines and status of activities on the arthritis action plan.

Dr. Bassi advised that the group should delineate the different arthritis types in materials planned for dissemination due to the varied diagnosis and management protocols. Dr. Thomas reiterated this and also stated that multiple arthritis diagnoses may be superimposed on each other. She informed the group that great evidence based resources which can be promoted by the committee without reinventing the wheel can be found on the American College of Rheumatology website. Rachel has some materials which are ready for dissemination which will be submitted alongside the creative considerations to MDH for approval with plans for dissemination at set times.

Buki updated the group that a new staff will be on board soon and will be able to assist with the action plan and creative considerations document updates.

### 3. **Next Steps**

- Buki will update the work plan and creative considerations documents before the February meeting.
- Rachel will follow up on the walk for the cure and provide updates at the next meeting. All members are encouraged to register.
- Dr. Thomas will provide updates on the OAI and recruitment for the AF connect group.

### 4. **Adjournment**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:55 pm

**Next Meeting:** February 17, 2020; 5-6